

The Greatest Commandments

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Deuteronomy 6: 5

but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19: 18b

Almost everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments. They are rules for living that God handed down which tell us not to do things such as steal from others or try to kill them.

But one day when Jesus was on the earth, someone asked Him what the most important commandment was that God ever delivered to man through the Bible.

Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Matthew 22: 37 – 38

What Jesus means is that the most important thing for us is not what rules we follow, not what we are or are not allowed to do rather the most important thing is that we love others and are not just concerned with ourselves.

† **First, we should love God with everything we have**

† **But we should also have a genuine love and concern for other people.**

Christianity is not a religion just based on rules of right and wrong. It is a way of living based on love, starting with a love for God. Jesus says the most important thing is that we are motivated by love and not our own selfish desires.

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